

METHOD AND APPARATUS OF USING SATELLITES TO AUGMENT  
TRAFFIC CAPACITY OF A WIRELESS NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5       A system and method for augmenting a wireless communication network to  
provide at least a portion of digital data to a user is disclosed. The method comprises the  
steps of receiving the portion of the digital data in a satellite receiver, providing the  
received portion of the digital data to at least one of a plurality of terrestrial receivers  
which form the wireless communication network, and transmitting the received portion of  
10      the digital data to a user within a service region using the terrestrial transmitter. The  
apparatus comprises a satellite antenna, for receiving a signal having at least a portion of  
the data from a satellite, and a satellite receiver, communicatively coupled to the satellite  
antenna for detecting and demodulating the signal to produce a portion of the digital data,  
the satellite receiver communicatively coupled to a terrestrial transmitter in a terrestrial  
15      wireless communication network.

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